

Fair Telephone Billing Act of 2012

Section 1 – Title

Section 2 – Findings

Section 3(a) – Defines certified third-party vendor and third-party charge.

Section 3(b) – Amends Section 258 of the Communications Act to prohibit a local exchange carrier or provider of interconnected VoIP service from placing a third-party charge on a consumer's bill, unless the third-party charge is directly related to the provision of telephone service or is for a product or service jointly marketed or sold by the local exchange carrier or provider of interconnected VoIP service.

Section 4 – Gives the Federal Communications Commission authority to write any regulations necessary to implement the amendments made by section 3.

Section 5 – Directs the Federal Communications Commission, in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission, to establish rules to protect wireless users from unauthorized third-party charges on their wireless bills. These rules would ensure that wireless users have a means to avoid receiving third-party charges on their bills; that the third-party charges that appear on wireless bills are authorized by the users, and that wireless users are reimbursed for any unauthorized third-party charges that appear on their bills.